ROSIN THE BOW
or
FASHIONABLE and
CORRECT COUNTRY DANCES
Containing 10 popular
dances for the year
1812 with explanation
and music
Helen LaFarge

ROSIN The BOW

Formerly The Ramapo Ranger's Bulletin.

For Square and Folk Dancers

Vol. II April 1946 No. 4

A comparatively neglected era for folk dancers and dance revivalists, seems to be the early 1800's. Just why, I don't know: there is a wealth of material hidden away in the archives of the British Museum, the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library and many private collections.

Armed with yards and yards of microfilm from many sources, I pieced together this month's feature article. References for the dances and instructions have been carefully cross-checked, and are found among the following bibliography.

"24 Country Dances for the Year 1810". (Goulding 1810) "Platt's Original and Popular Dances". (1810) "24 Country Dances". (Metralcourt 1800) "Major's Collection". (1820) "A Select Collection of Country Dances". (Ross, 1820) "Quadrille and Cotillion Panorama" (Wilson, 1810?) "Complete System of Country Dancing". (Wilson, 1815?) "The London Court Journal" and other books, mss. etc. too numerous to catalogue here.

These dances represent one of the stages in the transition of the old English Country Dances to our present day New England "Longways Dances". If you like 'em let me know — I have about 1200 more, from 1650 to 1890!

Please note that many of the terms have utterly different meanings as compared with to-day's usage. "Allemand" in the old country dance books is to all intents the "dos-a-dos" of the present day, and the "right and left" bears no resemblance to the figure of the same name in modern square dancing. Better look at the diagrams before you try the dances!

Rod La Farge

Issued monthly by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St. Haledon, Paterson 2 N.J.
Subscription $1.50 yearly, U.S.A. Contents copyrighted 1946 by Rod La Farge.

The Figures

SET. A form of balance. A short, springy leap to the right on the right foot (only a few inches). Draw the left foot, toe touching the floor and heel raised, up to the right foot. Repeat to the left.

DOWN CENTER (OR MIDDLE) AND BACK. (Fig. 1) Active couples, right hands joined, man's forearm across his chest, walk down between the lines (8 counts). Turn, each counter-clockwise without releasing hands, the man's arm passing over the lady's head. Return up between lines, taking the place of the original 2nd couple who have moved up one place.....**This is the progression.** This is **not** the "cast off" of present day contra-dances.

FIRST COUPLE SET TO 2nd LADY.. See figure 2.

OPPOSITES CHANGE. (Fig. 3-4-5-6) This is the "right and left" of the old country dance books. I have here changed the title to avoid confusion with the use of the term "right and left" to-day. Active couple after progression:—X changes places with B (pass left shoulders). A changes places with Y (pass right shoulders). X changes places with B (pass left shoulders). A changes places with Y (pass right shoulders).

SET CONTRARY CORNERS. (Fig. 7-8-9) After progression:—A crosses over and sets to Y, while X crosses over and sets to C. A and X, half turn to the right facing each other, pass right shoulders. A goes to Z and sets, while X goes to B and sets. A and X, half turn clockwise and return to starting point.

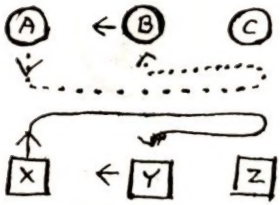


Fig. 1 Down Center and Back

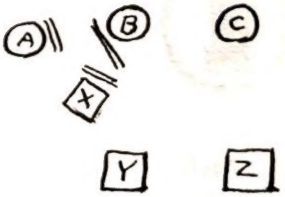


Fig. 2 First Couple Set to Second Lady

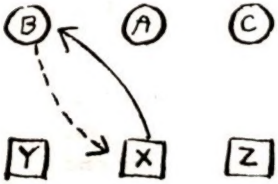


Fig. 3 Opposites Change (a)

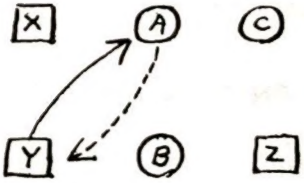


Fig. 4 Opposites Change (b)

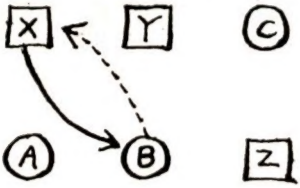


Fig. 5 Opposites Change (c)

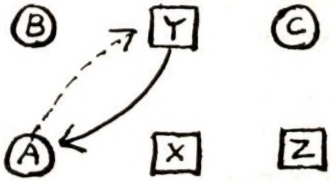


Fig. 6 Opposites Change (d)

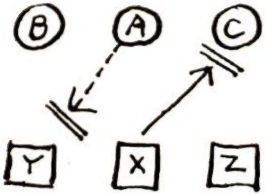


Fig. 7 Set to Contrary Corners (a)

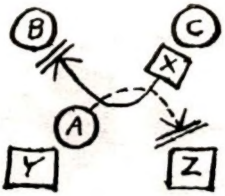


Fig. 8 Set to Contrary Corners (b)

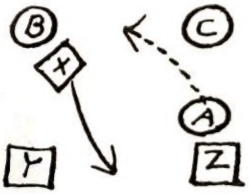


Fig. 9 Set to Contrary Corners (c)

The Figures

SET AND CHANGE SIDES. (Fig. 10) Ladies A and B set to each other, while gentlemen X and Y set to each other. Ladies join hands and pass between gentlemen, changing sides.

CAST OFF AND BACK AGAIN. See Fig. 11.

DOUBLE TRIANGLE. Couples follow paths shown in Figs. 11-12.

HEY ON OWN SIDE. (Fig 14) Actives face down, inactives face up. Inactives start up while the actives start down, passing alternately right and left shoulders, **counting the turn on the end as a shoulder passed.** Continue movement until all regain original places.

SWING CORNERS. (Fig. 15) A swings around X with right hands joined. A swings around Y (left hands) while X swings around C (left hands). A swings around X (right hands). A swings around Z (left hands) while X swings around B (left hands). Both fall back to places.

DOS-A-DOS. As in to day's square dances, except with a wider sweep around. The hands hang loose at the sides.

RIGHT HANDS ACROSS. Moulinet, as in quadrilles.

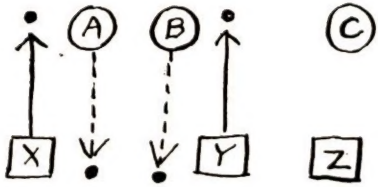


Fig. 10 Set and Change Sides.

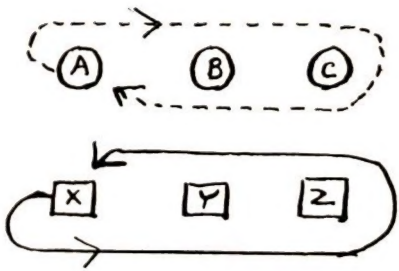


Fig. 11 Cast off two and Back Again.

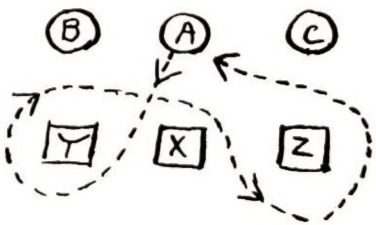


Fig 12 Double Triangle Lady's Path

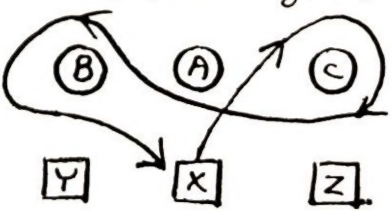


Fig. 13 Double Triangle Gentleman's Path

Lady and Gentleman Perform at Same Time

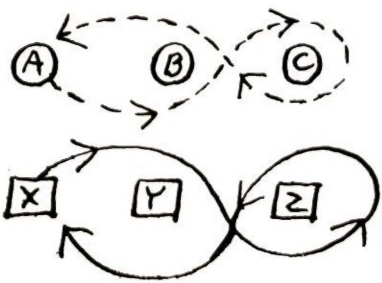


Fig. 14 Hey on your Own Side - Path of the First Couple

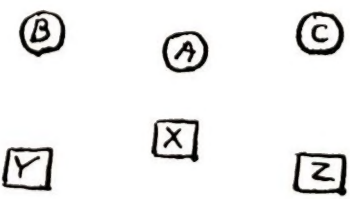


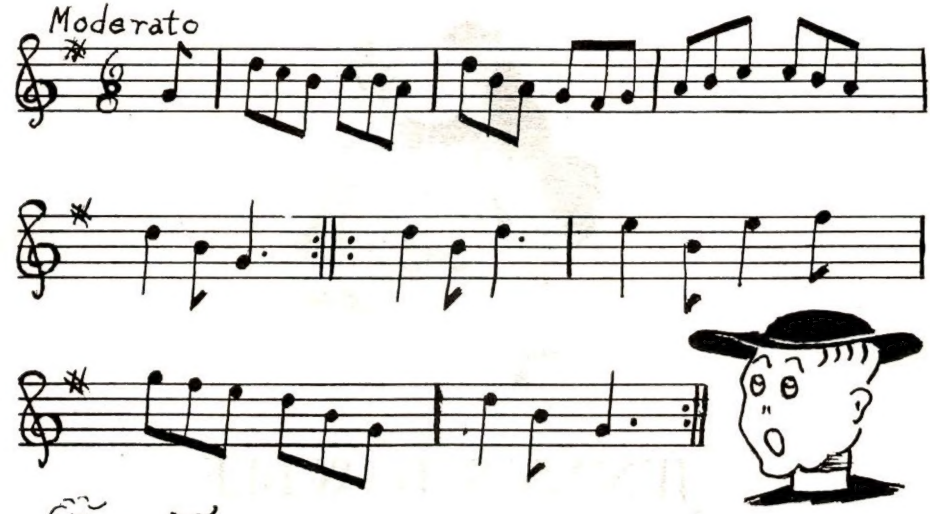
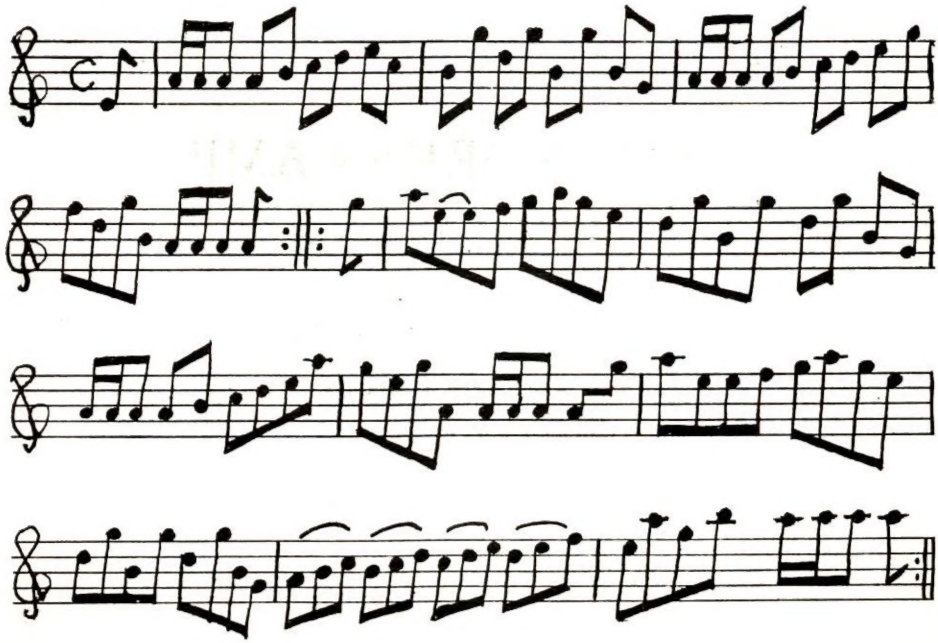
Fig 15. Swing Corners (Start)

WE'VE CHEATED THE PARSON

Hey on your own sides
Down the middle and back
Lead through the top couple

BROUGHTY CASTLE

The 3 ladies lead round the 3 gentlemen
The 3 gentlemen lead around the 3 ladies
Down the middle and back
Dos-a-dos (see exp.)

WE'VE CHEATED THE PARSON

BROUGHTY CASTLE

JENNY'S BAWBEE

Six hands quite around
The same back again
Down the middle and back
Set to top couple

THE YORKS CAMP

1st and 2nd couples set
Opposites change
Down the middle and back
Dos-a-dos (see exp.)

JENNY'S BAWBEE

THE YORKS CAMP

THE ODDITY

1st and 2nd couples, hands across
The same back again
Down the middle and back
Hands four around
Opposites change

LOVE AND WHISKEY

Set
Hands across with 2nd couple
The same back again
Down the middle and back
Opposites change

THE ODDITY

LOVE AND WHISKEY

Allegro

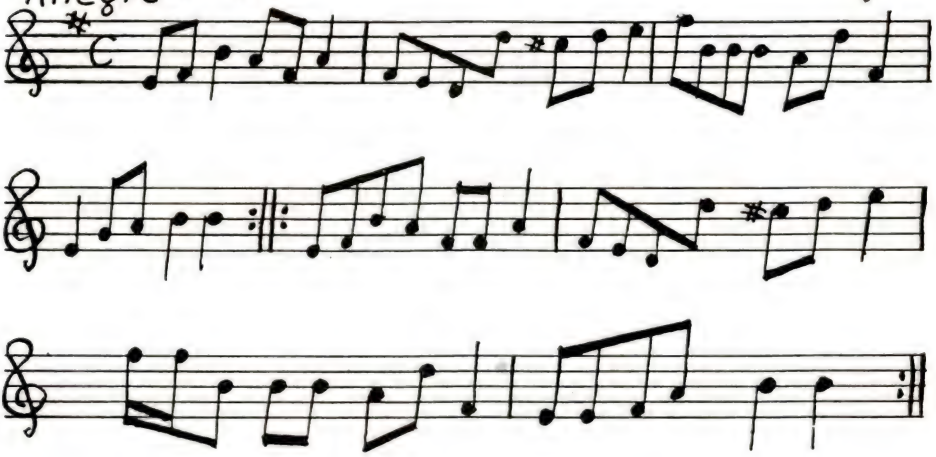
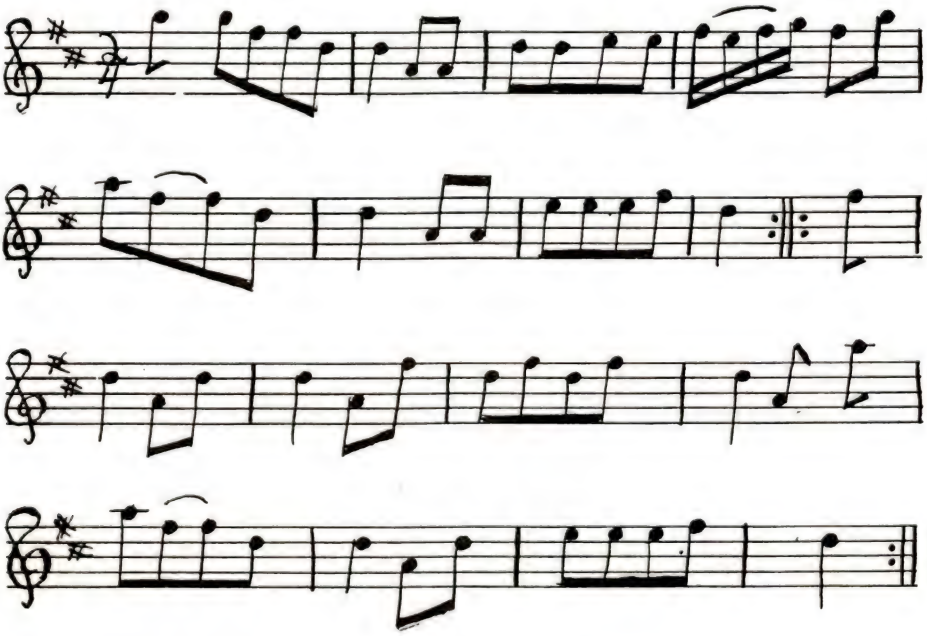
CA' THE EWES

Set and change places with the 2nd couple
Dos-a-dos (see exp.)
Swing corners (see notes)
Set contrary corners
The double triangle

BUGLE HORN

Set and change sides
The same back again
Down the middle and back
Dos-a-dos (see notes)

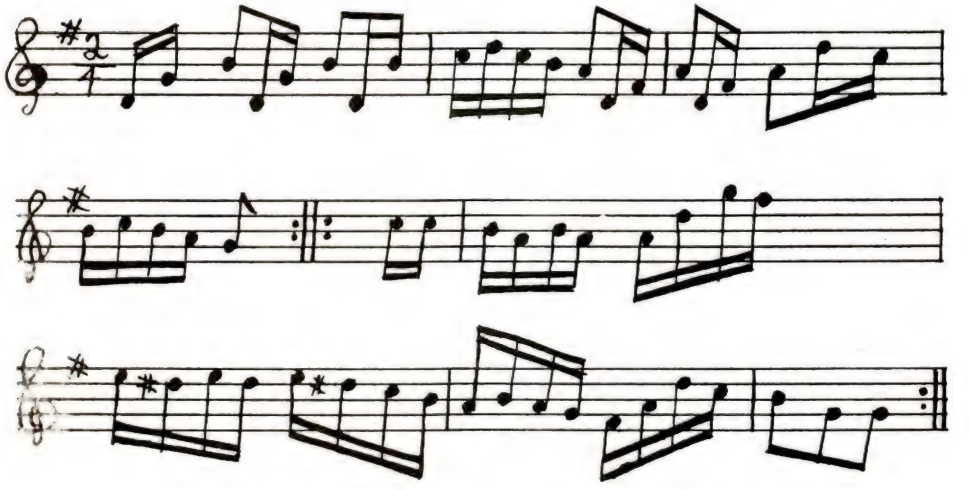
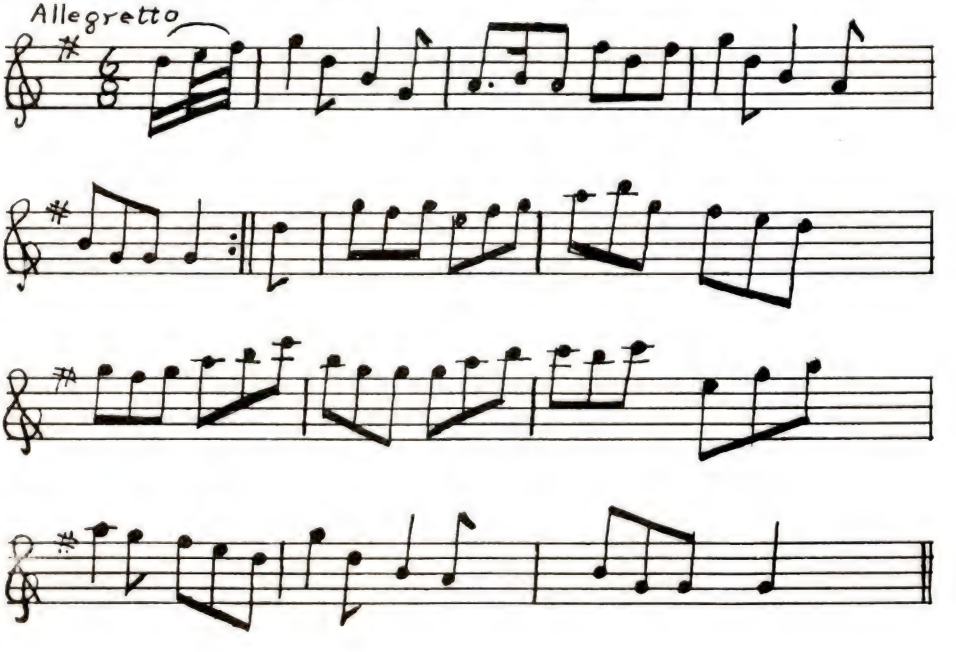
CA' THE EWES

Allegro

BUGLE HORN

RUSSIAN DANCE

1st Lady turns the 2nd Gentleman
while the 1st Gentleman turns the 2nd Lady
Down the middle and back
Set to top couple

THE DUCKS DANG O'ER

Cast off 2 couples and back again
Down the middle and back
Dos-a-dos (see notes)

RUSSIAN DANCE

THE DUCKS DANG O'ER

Ramblins

After the success of the Square Dance Contest and the Waltz contest at Franklin Grange, the number of entries in the Polka contest was very disappointing. However the crowd enjoyed the square dancing as usual, including Mr. Galinski of the Polish Folk Art and Dance Group, and Mr. Gromada of the Tatra Mountaineers who were the judges for the event. Also present were Arnold and Sylvia Vilonen of the Finnish Folk Dance Group. Winners of the contest were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Van Saun of Midland Park.

Mr. Tiger and his Lady Bugs visited the Grange the other Saturday and called a set for us while the girls "sat in" with the orchestra.

With a few Thursday evenings free, I managed to drop in on Ed Durlacher at the Lexington Ave. YW. They are moving the dances up on the roof May 30. Ed has some new dates (see Dance Directory Supplement section) and his new album (Sonora 479) is on the counters. Nice clear platters. He was guest caller recently at Floyd Woodhull's "Old Barn Dance" in Elmira and at Al Brundages Jamboree (Danbury, Conn.) Other callers at the Jamboree were Ralph Page, Charlie Zintel, Larry Cairns, Steve Hopkins, and of course, Al himself.

David Hahn's Folk Costume Ball drew a paid attendance of 249 for the benefit of the Disabled Veterans. He is holding another—see directory section. His folk dance classes are "adopting" a French war orphan.

WNYC is getting quite folkish for the "Big Town" station. Margot Mayo on Fridays at 6:15 P.M., Piute Pete on Saturdays at 5:30 P.M., the AMNH folk dance series on Mondays 4:30 to 5 P.M., Elaine Lewis of the New York Folk Lore Society, assorted ballad singers, ets, etc.

Henry Scherer, his wife, Murray Sherman, and Ida Nedleman have been doing some folk dancing to entertain the boys in some of the hospitals.

Nice long article on square dancing in "Holiday," the new class magazine.

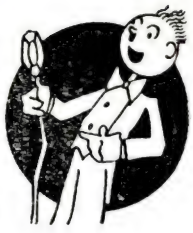
The Laubins put on a real show at the Museum of Natural History. Beautiful costumes, impressive and exciting dances. I lost track of the encores.

Bill Cairns and his new exhibition group of square and folk dancers made their first appearance at the Van Cortlandt Roller Skating Rink (Bwdy. & 241st St., NYC). Five couples performed: Te-Chen Chaig and Charles Valdes, Florence Fennie and Uryon Davidson, Madelyn Isaacs and Emil Roberts, Eva Russel and Peter Van Beek, Winnie and Bill Cairns. Bill has decided to teach folk dancing full time. Good luck, Bill!

I also got in an evening at the English Country Dance Society. Phillip Merrill can sure make the piano say "Merrie England"! (He can squeeze a wicked wheeze from an accordion, too.)

Too late to enlarge upon:- Conneticut University is sponsoring a mammoth square dance on the campus Aug first. Over 8,000 at the California Folk Dance Federation Spring Festival. Three new square dance albums coming in addition to Loy's and Durlacher's. Two from the Disc Co.; one with Ralph Page calling, and one played by the Rock Candy Mountaineers without calls. A new Decca album arranged by Margot Mayo with Manny calling. I've bought the Red River Boys from Ed Abrahamsen who has gone to Vermont. I rate them the best square dance band in the east and they romp through the folk dances as well!

SINGING CALL



We thank Mr. Lawrence Loy, of Amherst Mass., for contributing this month's singing call. I guess you're acquainted with his last album of square dance records; his new one (Victor) should be on the counters by the time you get this.

Tune: Solomon Levi.

INTRODUCTION

Left to the ingenuity of the caller.

FIGURE

(Verse) The first head lady and opposite gent just lead up to the right, and circle three around you go and hold her good and tight.

Lady 1 and gentleman 3 lead to couples 2 and 4 respectively, and circle three hands round.

Break those rings and now you make 2 lines upon the side
The two upon the heads around the outside now will slide:

Gent 1 and lady 3 go to the right, half around set.

(Chorus) Half-way 'round and up the center, you meet in the center and swing, the other six join hands around and make a great big ring.

Gent. 1 and lady 3 meet in the center and swing while the others circle 6 hands around to the left.

A prettier girl, a nicer girl, a sweeter girl was she, now break that ring and swing your own, you swing your sweet Marie

(Verse) The same head lady and opposite gent go forward to and fro, forward again and pass right through to the opposite side you go:

Lady 1 and gentleman 3 go forward and back, then forward again and cross over.

The ladies two chassez the center, the gents promenade.

The two ladies join both hands and chassez (side step) down the center to the opposite side of the set. As the ladies chassez, the gents walk down the center to the opposite side of the set, gentleman # 3 passing to the right of the ladies, gentleman # 1 to the left.

The two gents chassez the center, the ladies promenade.

Similiar to above, except gents chassez.

(Chorus) The same four holding the floor, swing your partners to place, you have no money, you got your honey, so give her a good embrace.

Couples 1 and 3 swing to place.

Right and left with with your right hand couple, you have no time to spare. Now right and left right back again, for they're a jolly pair.

Couple 1 does a right and left with couple 2, couples 3 and 4 the same.

(Verse) Now right hands to partners all, and a grand right and left, with head held high you pass her by, go all the way around. Promenade.

REPEAT CALL THREE TIMES

DANCE DIRECTORY SUPPLEMENT

This information will bring 'Rod's Dance Directory', Issue #10, up to date. (May 5)

ADDENDA

SPECIAL ONE-TIME EVENTS

Folk Dance Forum for group leaders and teachers. Every Monday night to June 3, (inclusive) International YWCA, 341 E. 17th St., N.Y.C. Led by various nationality teachers. Honesdale, Pa. Jr. O.U.A.M. Hall. Walter Kimbel calls every Saturday night.

Wednesday, May 8. Folk Costume Ball held by Dave Hahn for the benefit of the Spanish Refugee Fund. Arlington Hall, St. Marks Place, N. Y. C.

Saturday, May 18, 8:00 P. M. Folk Dance Festival at Hunter College, N. Y. C. Michael Herman and 20 Nationality Groups in costume.

Thursday, May 23. Imatra Hall, 740 - 40th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Finnish Folk Dance Group open house.

Sunday, June 16. Philo-Celtic Society picnic at Lake Idlewild, Old Tappan, N. J. Busses leave 31 E. 70th Street, N. Y. C. at 11 A. M. Irish folk dancing in the evening, ending at 8 P. M.

Sunday, June 23, Imatra Hall, 740 - 40th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Finnish Folk Dance Midsummer Festival. Bonfire dancing, ect.

H. D. Mills calls with his Orch.: May 11, Larkfield School, East Northport, N. Y. May 18, Centereach, N. Y. Fire Dept. May 29, St. Phillips School, Main St., Northport, N. Y. June 1, in Dix Hills School, South Huntington, N. Y. May 25, E. Setauket Vet. Hall.

Bob Turner calls with his Green Valley Boys:—May 4, American Legion Hall, Englewood, N. J. May 11, Masonic Hall, Pearl River, N. Y. May 17, Closter, N. J. May 25, Armory, Englewood, N. J. May 28, Paramus, N. J. Grange. June 1, Masonic Hall, Park Ridge, N. J.

Pop Smith calls:—May 9, Friendly Union Soc. Sheffield, Mass. May 13, at Masonic Club, Sharon, Conn. May 23 at Salisbury Grange Hall, Salisbury, Conn. May 30, 12:30 A. M. to 4:30 A. M. (Memorial Day Morning) Dawn Dance at Victory Grange Hall, Robertsville, Conn. June 17, Sheffield High School, Sheffield, Mass.

Aug. 11 to 25. The Eastern Cooperative Recreation School will hold their sixth annual session on the campus of Goddard College, Plainfield, Vt. Course will include play party games and folk dancing. Write Ruth Norris, Eastern Co-op League, 44 W. 143rd Street, New York 30.

MONDAYS

New York City. Ed Durlacher calls with his Top Hands, every Monday night at 105th Street and Riverside Drive. Outdoor square dancing. Free; sponsored by the Pepsi-Cola Co. Starts June 17th.

New York City. Thompson Gym, Teachers College, 525 W. 120th Street. Folk dancing every Monday night 8 to 10:40. Eugene Tso, leader.

Millville, Pa. Henrie Bldg. American Legion Square Dance with Harry Deiterich calling. Every Monday night.

TUESDAYS

Somerville, N. J. High School Gym. Square dancing every Tuesday night, Pop Stout calling with Stouts Orchestra.

Bloomsburg, Pa. Elks Club. Harry Deiterich calls every Tuesday night. Members only.

East Otis, Mass. Knox Trail Inn. Pop Smith calls with his Old Timers. Every Tuesday night.

WEDNESDAYS

Millertown, N. Y. Grange Hall. "Pop" Smith calls with his Old Timers every Wednesday night.

Jones Beach, State Park, N. Y. Square dancing with Ed Durlacher and his Top Hands every Wednesday night. Free admission (sponsored by the Park Dept.) Starts July 3rd.

CONT. NEXT PAGE

Berwick, Pa., Elks Club. Harry Deiterich calls every Wednesday night. **Members only.** Closes May 8.

Hughesville, Pa. Trout Pond Park, near Hughesville. Harry Deiterich calls every Wednesday night starting May 15th.

Torrey, Pa. Grange Hall. Walter Kimbel calls. Alternate Wednesday nights. (April 3 - 17 etc.)

Dyberry, Pa. Pleasant Valley Grange Hall. Walter Kimbel calls on alternate Wednesday nights. (April 10 - 24 etc.)

THURSDAYS

Charlestown, South Carolina, Y.W.C.A., 76 Society Street. Square and folk dancing first and third Thursdays. 8:30 to 10:30 P.M.

Falls Village, Conn. Grange Hall. "Pop" Smith calls with his Old Timers on alternate Thursdays starting April 4.

Lightstreet, Pa. Fire Co. Harry Deiterich calls every Thursday night.

Ithaca, N. Y. Sage Gym. Cornell Cuting Club. Square and folk dancing every Thursday night.

New York City. 74 St. Marks Place. Dance Caravan, exhibition folk dance group, meets every Thursday, 8 P. M.

FRIDAYS

New York City. Jefferson School, 575 Sixth Avenue at 16th Street. Henry Joseph Scherer starts -week folk dance class, Friday, May 3. Registration star's April 22.

Hartsville, Mass. Community Hall. "Pop" Smith calls with his Old Timers every Friday night.

Hyde Park, N. Y., Town Hall. Robert Rose calls with Rose's Orchestra. Second Friday of each mon h.

Wicopee Grange N. Y. Robert Rose calls 4th Friday each month.

Trenton, N. J., USO Club, 132 North Warren Street. Square dancing led by the Trenton Play Co-op. Second and fourth Fridays.

Linden, N. J. School No. 8, West Balanckey Street. Pop Stout calls with Stouts Orchestra every Friday night.

Bloomsburg, Pa. Moose Club. Harry Deiterich calls every Friday night. **Members only.**

Flanders, N. J. Grange Community Hall. V. J. Tiger calls with Tiger's Lady Bugs. Square and modern. First and third Fridays.

Galilee Pa. Grange Hall. Walter Kimbel calls every Friday night.

St. Louis, Mo. Big Red Barn on Highway 21 near St. Louis. Square dancing with the Shady Valley Folks. Every Friday and Saturday night.

SATURDAYS

New York City. Ed Durlacher calls with his Top Hands every Saturday afternoon at 2 P. M. at the Mall in Central Park. Outdoor square dancing. Free; sponsored by Pepsi-Cola. Starts June 22nd.

East Setauket, L. I. Veterans Hall. Harry Mills calls with Mill's Orchestra. Fourth Saturday of each month.

Trenton, N. J. Y.W.C.A. Square dancing under leadership of the Trenton Play Co-op. First and third Saturday evenings.

Sheffield, Mass. Grange Hall. "Pop" Smith calls with his Old Timers every Saturday night.

Watchung, N. J. Firehouse. Herbert Hann calls every Saturday night. Square and round dancing.

Danville, Pa. Masonic Temple. Harry Deiterich calls every Saturday night.

Old Tappan, N. J. Lein's Grove. Don Conine calls with his Hilltop Rhythm Boys. Square and modern every Saturday night.

Oak Ridge, N. J. Dempsey's. Square and modern dancing every Saturday night 9 to 2. Mary Krowley and Sagebrush Troubadours.

CONT. NEXT PAGE

SUNDAYS

Trenton, N. J. Play Co-op Headquarters Barricklo Avenue. Square dancing second and fourth Sundays, 8:30 to 11 P.M.

DISCONTINUED FOR THE SUMMER

Sunnyside, L. I. Woodside-Sunnyside Community Center, Greenpoint Avenue. Square and folk dancing every Monday night. Piute Pete calls.

Sun Tan Lake, N. J. Route 23 near Butler. Sagebrush Troubadours with Mary Krowley calling. Square and modern every Saturday night.

The Ramapo Rangers, a closed exhibition group led by Rod La Farge. Practice every Wed. 8 P.M. at thePassiac N.J. YMCA

Passaic N.J. YMCA 45 River Drive. Square, folk and contra dances every Wed. night 9.30. Caller - Rod La Farge.

Clifton N.J., Schweisguth's Grove on Broad St., Chuck Zistel Calls. Square and Mod. Every Friday night.

Mendham N.J. Pastime Club. V.J.Tiger calls with Tiger's Lady Bugs Square & modern, 1st & 3rd Sat. of each month.

Mt. Bethel N.J., Volunteer Firehouse, Mountain View Road just off Mt. Bethel Rd. Square & Mod. every Sat. night. Herbert Hann calls.

N Y C M.G. Studio 205 B, 1697 Broadway. Chelsea Folk Dance Group. Jack Glotzer, director. Every Friday night.

Sat. May 25, is the last night of the season at Franklin Grange, Wyckoff N.J. Don't miss it.

Advertisements

RAYBURN'S OZARK GUIDE

Box 111-X Eureka Springs, Arkansas is a 100-page magazine of the Ozarks, for sportsmen, homeseekers, folklorists. $1.00 a year or $2.00 for three years. Single copy 35¢. Classified advertising 5¢ a word; display $2.00 per inch.

AMERICAN SQUARES

a magazine devoted to American folk dancing, offers one year's subscription $1.00. Foster's 'Learn to Dance and Call Square Dances the Foster way' $1.00. Both for $1.60! Charles Thomas, 38 So. Girard St., Woodbury N.J.

THE HILL COUNTRY MESSENGER

A monthly paper full of hill billy news. Also contains songs, poems, Hillbilly and Western records, song folios sheet music, a column where you can request words to songs you're looking for, and everything else that's hillbilly. 12 big issues for $1.50. Send your order to-day to: Deanne Stephenson, Box 206 Browder, Kentucky.

THE CALGARY STAMPEDE

Calgary Alberta. July 8 - 13. Big purses for all events: cowboys get your entries in! Indian Fair; Square dancing Sat. night at the Hudson's Bay Co. parking lot.